These are photographs from the collection of James A. Spilman, a businessman at Rolla in Phelps County, Missouri. Included are portraits of Spilman and his wife, scenes in Rolla, Maramec Spring, and Jerome, and views of the Spilman hardware pavilion on the Phelps County fairgrounds.

James A. Spilman was born on 16 September 1868 in Texas County, Missouri, the son of James A. and Rhoda L. Spilman. During the 1890s he located in Rolla, where he engaged in the hardware business. On 4 January 1899, Spilman married Mrs. Mae Campbell Love, a native of Rolla and daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Campbell. Joseph Campbell made a fortune in general merchandising, real estate, and banking, and was one of the Phelps County’s oldest and most wealthy citizens at his death in 1912. In addition to the hardware business, Spilman assumed control of many of the Campbell enterprises. He was also an early dealer of automobiles and “Good Roads” booster, member of the Commercial Club at Rolla, and promoter of the Phelps County Fair, at which the Spilman hardware pavilion was a fixture for two decades. He was active in local civic and political circles, although apparently he never held elective office, and was Phelps County’s food administrator during World War One. After forty years in the hardware business, Spilman retired in April 1938.

James and Mae Spilman died a few months apart in 1951 (12 August and 5 November 1951, respectively) and are buried in the Rolla Cemetery.

The Spilman photograph collection consists of twenty-one photographs and a funeral card. Most of the images are mounted on cardstock, but there are a few snapshot-type prints. The collection includes portraits of James and Mae Spilman, scenes of Rolla, Maramec Spring near St. James, and Jerome, views of Joseph Campbell’s residence, the aftermath of an ice storm at Rolla, carousing Missouri School of Mines students, and three views of crowds at the Spilman hardware pavilion at the Phelps County Fairgrounds. The last three views are oversized cabinet-style photographs. The only non-photograph item in the collection is a funeral card for Hattie B. Bland (1888), the wife of C. C. Bland and a friend of Mae Campbell’s.

Many of the photographs in Folder 1 bear a small typed tag identifying the view as part of the Spilman collection, along with an item number. Many other photographs bearing the same type of identification tag from the Spilman collection are in the Clair V. Mann collection in the University of Missouri-Rolla Archives.

r443  4 May 1989  Luther W. Martin  Gift
r1155  29 June 2005  Rose Mary Spilman Lorts  Gift
Shelf List

These are photographs from the collection of James A. Spilman, a businessman at Rolla in Phelps County, Missouri. Included are portraits of Spilman and his wife, scenes in Rolla, Maramec Spring, and Jerome, and views of the Spilman hardware pavilion on the Phelps County fairgrounds.

Folder 1: Spilman family photograph collection
(ten items)
Spilman, James A., portrait
Spilman, Mae Campbell, portrait
Spilman photo, No. 2, group photograph on water wheel at Maramec Spring, 8 July 1897
Spilman photo, No. 4, group photograph at Maramec Spring
Spilman photo, No. 9, street scene, Rolla
Spilman photo, No. 23, parade on north Pine Street, Rolla
Spilman photo, No. 26, Rolla street scene
Spilman photo, no number [duplicate of No. 23]
Spilman photo, no number, another view of Pine Street parade, looking south
Spilman photo, No. 27, six young men, possibly Missouri School of Mines students, drinking

Folder 2: Miscellaneous views, Rolla and Phelps County, Missouri
(nine items)
Joseph Campbell residence, north Cedar Street, Rolla
Three snapshot views showing effects of ice storm at Campbell House and along Cedar Street
Livestock shed, probably Phelps County fairgrounds at Rolla
Three snapshot views of the Gasconade River and Frisco railroad bridge at Jerome, Mo.
Funeral card, Hattie B. Bland (died 2 April 1888)

Folder 3: Phelps County fairgrounds
(three items)
Photographs showing groups at the Spilman hardware pavilion at the fairgrounds. These views are OVERSIZE.

| r443 | 4 May 1989 | Luther W. Martin | Gift |
| r1155 | 29 June 2005 | Rose Mary Spilman Lorts | Gift |

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Rolla (Mo.)—Photograph collections
Spilman, James Andrew, 1868-1951.
Spilman, Mae Campbell, 1870-1951